XXVIth Year.] THE [No. 1776.]

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1781.

LONDON, Aug. 10.

THE Panther man of war arrived at Portſmouth from Gibraltar, eluded the vigilance of the Spaniſh ſquadron [illegible] by paſſing out in the night. [illegible] Spaniſh pacquet which ſhe took on paſſage and brought in with her, has [illegible] of money on board.

Letters by the Liſbon mail adviſe, that [illegible] Spaniards have opened their batteries againſt Gibraltar, the Engliſh made a ſally upon them, in which they repulſed a ſtrong party of the beſiegers, many of whom were put to the ſword.

The fitting out warlike ſquadrons by [illegible] northern powers, and the arrival of [illegible] Ruſſian men of war in our ports, preſent a new æra in naval hiſtory. The [illegible] time the Ruſſian fleet entered our [illegible], they were ſuppliants for aſſiſtance [illegible] inſtruction in maritime affairs: we ſupplied them with ſtores, and lent them [illegible] officers, by which means we gave [illegible] the firſt hope of becoming a naval power. We have thus warmed the frozen [illegible], who in return whets her tuſks againſt us.

A private letter received yeſterday from Holland, by the Dutch mail, ſays, that there are thirty ſail of ſhips in the Texel, already laden for ſea, bound with ſtores [illegible] France, and that they are only waiting the arrival of ſome Ruſſian men of [illegible] to convoy them there.

If the above account is really true, we may conclude ſays a correſpondent, that the ſpirit and deſign of the northern confederacy goes ſomewhat further than ſeems conſiſtent with that ſtrict neutrality, which theſe powers pretend to adopt. In circumſtances like the preſent, the protection of their own trade is all that the law of nations will adjudge to any people; and even that much, in particular caſes, may appear problematical. But ſurely there can be no licence or authority, founded in the regulations hitherto eſtabliſhed among ſovereign ſtates, for any of them to aſſume a right of protecting another in carrying on a commerce to the prejudice of a third party. The moment therefore, that Ruſſia takes the Dutch ſhips under convoy, ſhe may be conſidered as having virtually declared war againſt Great-Britain.

Aug. 16. It is to be hoped that our miniſters will keep a vigilant watch over the neutrality armaments, leſt they may be uſed as a pretext to cover ſome hoſtile deſign. Much is to be apprehended from the profound policy of the Ruſſian queen, joined to the artful projects of the ſagacious Mynheers.

Almoſt all the neutral powers in Europe, except Portugal, ſeem to have joined this league, which, though it ſhould be really deſigned, as it is pretended, for the protection of commerce, is yet very formidable for the facility with which it may be turned to the accompliſhments of any other purpoſe.

By the laſt returns made of the volunteer corps of the kingdom of Ireland, now in array, they abſolutely amount to [illegible] men.

A few days ſince a commiſſion was diſpatched to Sir George Rodney, giving him very extenſive and almoſt unlimited powers in the puniſhment of ſuch of his captains, as, by their baſhfulneſs prevented the total defeat of the French fleet.

Sept 1. The Weſt-India merchants are uſing all poſſible expedition in getting out a fleet, and have applied to the lords of the admiralty for a convoy, to ſail the firſt fair wind after the 30th of October.

If the letter which appeared in many of the newſpapers, ſigned Bernardo de Galvez, and addreſſed to the preſident of the congreſs, was really written by that general, it is in fact an acknowledgment of American independence; and cautious as Spain was in her memorial to our court, not to make the leaſt mention of the Americans as an independent people, no ſenſible perſon can doubt but it is with the leave of the court of Madrid that the governor of a Spaniſh province writes to a rebel, and an aſſembly not acknowledged by their own prince.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 13.

Extract of a letter from Paris, dated Oct. 4, 1780.

"I am glad to ſee the American ſpirit rouſed again, and am much pleaſed with the ſubſcription of the ladies and merchants. They have confuted the aſſertion of that Scotch writer, who ſays, that women have not the *amor patriæ*; and that the merchants are attached to no country."

By a priſoner lately arrived here from New-York, and letters from ſome of our captains in that city, we learn that the American priſoners never were treated with more ſeverity and inhumanity than they are at preſent by the enemy. This is done with an evident deſign to engage them to enter into the Britiſh ſervice, for which they have large premiums, and particular promiſes of the kindeſt treatment. By theſe means, we are told, ſeveral hundred of our ſeamen have been compelled to enter on board their ſhips, as a refuge from their diſtreſs, who would have deſpiſed the reward and the ſervice, had the circumſtances of their captivity been only tolerable. Should things go on in this way, the greateſt part of our ſeamen may be tranſlated to the veſſels of the enemy. This is conſidered here as a point of no ſmall importance, and deſerving the particular and unremitted attention of congreſs. If the facts above ſtated are found upon due enquiry to be true, ought not the law of retaliation to be immediately put in force, as the moſt likely, and, perhaps, the only means to procure proper treatment for our priſoners, and prevent, for the future, ſuch outrages upon humanity, and ſuch diſcouragements to our cauſe?

Friday laſt arrived here the brig Fanny, captain Tanner, and ſchooner ——— captain Vicary, from the Havannah.

Yeſterday came into port a prize brig, taken by the Fair American, captain Jackways, on her intended voyage from New-York to Charles-town. She has on board a valuable cargo, conſiſting of ſalt, wine, dry goods, &c. &c.

The Britiſh forces which lately embarked at New-York have landed in Virginia. We hear that major-general Phillips (of Burgoyn's convention troops, but lately exchanged) commands on this expedition, although it is ſaid that Arnold acts as a principal officer: this is confirmed by the following extract of a letter from Fredericksburg, received yeſterday per poſt:

"Arnold, with about 1500 men and a few light horſe, landed 15 miles below Richmond, and marched into that town on Friday, about 12 o'clock, they have deſtroyed Weſtham and all the public works, great quantities of rum and ſugar, but dont underſtand they deſtroyed any tobacco. They retreated on the Saturday, about 12 o'clock, the ſame way they came. General Nelſon is collecting the militia as faſt as poſſible, and following them in order to haraſs their rear. We hourly expect the particulars."

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Amſterdam to his friend in this city, dated September 16.

"The capture of 55 ſhips at once; ſo much wealth; ſo many ſeamen and ſoldiers; and ſuch quantities of ſtores, is a ſevere ſtroke to the Engliſh, and cannot but have the moſt excellent effects for us, both in the Weſt-Indies and North-America. The right vein is now opened, and it is to be hoped that the courts of France and Spain will now be in earneſt in convoying their own commerce and cruiſing for that of their enemies. This is the ſhort, eaſy and infallible method of humbling the Engliſh, preventing the effuſion of an ocean of blood, and bringing the war to a concluſion. In this policy I hope our countrymen will join with alacrity. Privateering is as well underſtood by them as any people whatever; and it is by cutting off ſupplies, not by attacks, ſieges or aſſaults, that I expect deliverance from our enemies; and I ſhould be wanting in my duty if I did warn them againſt any relaxation of exertions, by ſea or land, from a fond expectation of peace; they will deceive themſelves if they depend upon it. Never, never, will the Engliſh make peace while they have an army in North America."

In CONGRESS, Jan. 5, 1781.

THE committee to whom were referred the letter of Abraham Skinner, commiſſary-general of priſoners, and other papers relative to the treatment of priſoners in the hands of the enemy, delivered in a report; as follows:

"That, notwithſtanding every effort of congreſs to obtain for our people, priſoners in the hands of the enemy, that treatment which humanity alone ſhould have dictated, the Britiſh commander, unmindful of the tenderneſs exerciſed towards their men, priſoners in our hands, and regardleſs of the practice of civiliſed nations, have perſiſted in treating our people, priſoners to them, with every ſpecies of inſult, outrage and cruelty. Officers and men are indiſcriminately thrown into the holds of priſon ſhips and into loathſome dungeons, and there deprived of fuel and the common neceſſaries of life, by which means many of the citizens of theſe ſtates have been compelled to enter into their ſervice, to avoid thoſe diſtreſſes which a conduct ſo contrary to the law of nations had brought upon them. Our ſeamen taken upon the American coaſt have been ſent to Great-Britain, or other parts beyond ſeas, to prevent their being exchanged, or to force them to take arms againſt their country: that, in the opinion of the committee, an exerciſe of the law of retaliation has become neceſſary, as a juſtice due to thoſe citizens of America, whom the fortune of war has thrown into the power of our enemy:" whereupon

Reſolved, That copies of the letter of Mr. A. Skinner, and the other papers referred, be tranſmitted to the commander in chief, and that he be directed to enquire into the manner in which our people, who are priſoners, are treated by the enemy, and that he give immediate orders to the commanding officers at the different poſts to take particular care that the Britiſh priſoners receive the ſame allowance and treatment, in every reſpect, as our people, who are priſoners, receive from the enemy.

Reſolved, That it be recommended to the reſpective executives to take effectual meaſures for carrying into execution the act of congreſs of January 13, 1780, reſpecting priſoners taken by the citizens, troops or ſhips of particular ſtates:

That the board of admiralty iſſue orders not to exchange any Britiſh ſea officers or ſeamen, until the enemy have returned to ſome of their garriſons in America, ſuch ſeamen as they have taken upon the American coaſts, and ſent to Great-Britain, or other parts beyond ſea; and that the board of admiralty give orders for continuing the treatment of priſoners as herein directed, until they receive orders to the contrary from congreſs or the commander in chief.

Publiſhed by order of congreſs,
CHARLES THOMSON, Secr.

January 13, 1781.

CONGRESS, taking into conſideration the eminent ſervices rendered to the United States by brigadier-general Sumpter, of South-Carolina, at the head of a number of volunteer militia from that and the neighbouring ſtates, particularly in the victory obtained over the enemy at the Hanging-Rock, on the 6th of Auguſt—in the defeat of major Wemyſs, and the corps of Britiſh infantry and dragoons under his command, at Broad-river, on the ninth day of November, in which the ſaid major Wemyſs was made priſoner—and in the repulſe of lieutenant-colonel Tarlton and the Britiſh cavalry and infantry under his command, at Black-ſtorks, Tyger-river, on the 20th day of November laſt: in each of which actions, the gallantry and military conduct of general Sumpter, and the courage and perſeverance of his troops were highly conſpicuous:

Reſolved therefore, That the thanks of congreſs be preſented to brigadier-general Sumpter, and the militia aforeſaid, for ſuch reiterated proofs of their patriotiſm, bravery and military conduct, which entitle them to the higheſt eſteem and confidence of their country; and that the commanding officer of the ſouthern department do forthwith cauſe the ſame to be iſſued in general orders, and tranſmitted to general Sumpter.

Extract from the minutes,
CHARLES THOMSON, Sec.

BALTIMORE, *Jan.* 23.

Extract of a letter from Peterſburg, Virginia, dated the 11th inſtant.

"We have for ſome weeks paſt expected our town to be reduced to aſhes. The enemy have been within 12 miles of it, and ſome of their privateers within 6, but luckily for us they received a ſmall check, which occaſioned them to fall down to the fleet at Weſtover, on James river, and yeſterday the whole of them went down, as we expect, to Portſmouth. They have burnt a number of valuable houſes on James-river, and carried off a great many negroes. We have every reaſon to believe they intend to quarter in this ſtate—ſhould that be the caſe, there muſt be a total ſtop to all kind of buſineſs.

"General Arnold obliged the inhabitants of Richmond to turn out all their rum, ſugar, &c. into the ſtreet, and then deſtroyed the whole, which makes me conclude every thing will take a rapid riſe here.—We are all in the greateſt confuſion here, ſo that you'll excuſe my not being more particular."

ANNAPOLIS, *January* 25.

The following advertiſements are taken from the Royal South-Carolina Gazette, of the 21ſt of November laſt.

IN conſequence of the powers in me veſted by the right honourable earl Cornwallis, and warrants received from his lordſhip and the commandant of Charles-town; I do hereby make public to all whom it may concern, that I have given the neceſſary orders for the ſeizure of the eſtates, both real and perſonal, of thoſe perſons whoſe names are undermentioned, excepting ſuch property in Charles-town, as is ſecured to thoſe who were in the town at the time of capitulation. And I do hereby ſtrictly prohibit, all and every perſon or perſons from attempting to conceal, remove, or in any way injure the ſaid property, on pain of being puniſhed, as aiding and abetting rebellion.

JOHN CRUDEN.

John Rutledge, Henry Laurens, Thomas Ferguſon, Chriſtopher Gadſden, William Moultrie, Pierce Butler, Ralph Izard, Arthur Middleton, Charles Coteſworth Pinkney, Francis Marion, John Harleſton, jun. Iſaac Harleſton, Iſaac Motte, Nicholas Eveleigh, John Lewis Gervais, Stephen Bull, Peter Horry, Hugh Horry, Thomas Heyward, William Clay Snipes.

Charles-town, 18th Nov. 1780.

WANTED,

PERSONS properly qualified to act as overſeers of eſtates in this province; ſuch perſons properly recommended, and of approved loyalty and integrity, will meet with ſuitable encouragement by applying to Mr. Cruden, No. [illegible], Bay-Continued.

NOTICE is hereby given, that I intend to let on leaſe for one year, from the firſt of January next, all theſe valuable plantations, with all neceſſary buildings, &c. thereon ſituated on Wateree river, four miles below Camden, now, or lately poſſeſſed by William Whitaker, James Whitaker, Joſhua Dinkins, &c. &c. Any perſon inclined to treat for the whole, or part, may ſend their propoſals, or apply to me in Charles-town.—If not let by the fifteenth of December, they will be put up at public auction at Camden, and due notice given of the day of ſale.

I am in want of an overſeer for a plantation, moſt agreeably ſituated, and well known in the above neighbourhood, and will give extraordinary encouragement to a perſon, who is thoroughly qualified to take charge of it; but none need apply whoſe character will not bear the ſtricteſt ſcrutiny.

CHARLES OGILVIE,
No. 10, Bay-Continued.

January 20, 1781.

CAME to the ſubſcriber's plantation, beyond Elk-Ridge, a ſorrel mare, about thirteen hands high, a ſtar in her forehead, four white feet, docked, not branded, three years old laſt ſpring, is a natural pacer. The owner is deſired to prove his or her property, take her away, and pay charges.

Annapolis, Jan. 8, 1781.

THE copartnerſhip of Eaſtman and Neth being this day diſſolved by mutual conſent, all perſons who have accounts to ſettle with the ſaid partnerſhip are deſired to apply to Joſeph Eaſtman.

JOS. EASTMAN,
3w 2 LEWIS NETH.

Charles county, Auguſt 18, 1780.

BROKE gaol yeſterday evening and made their eſcape, the two following fellows, to wit: A negro man committed to my cuſtody as a runaway, on the 22d of July laſt, by the name of GEORGE, the property of John Nelſon, (I have been ſince informed of Frederick county) he is a ſmall fellow, and appears to be young, he is a Guinean, but ſpeaks tolerable good Engliſh, and appears to be very artful and cunning; had on and took with him when he made his eſcape, an old white linen ſhirt, a country linen ditto, a pair ſhort linen breeches, and a felt hat. And a negro man named PETER, the property of Mrs. Elizabeth Adams, committed to my cuſtody on the 30th inſt. for poiſoning, he is much ſtricken in years, and talks bad Engliſh; had on a country linen ſhirt, and old country cloth breeches. Whoever apprehends the ſaid negroes, and ſecures them in any gaol, ſo that I get them again, ſhall receive a reward of one hundred and fifty continental dollars for each, or either of them, and all reaſonable charges paid, and if brought home to me, one dollar for every mile above thirty.

10 BENJ. CAWOOD, jun. ſheriff.

St. Mary's county, [illegible]

MADE his eſcape [illegible] negro man who [illegible] long, [illegible] Thomas [illegible] day or two before [illegible] longed to Mr. J[illegible] county [illegible] five years of age, five feet nine or [illegible] inches high, [illegible] had on a [illegible] ſtriped country cloth jacket, [illegible] jacket ſtriped, [illegible] linen ſhirt and cotton long breeches, had a pair of leg-irons [illegible] off, but I have reaſon to believe [illegible] them off the ſame night; his [illegible] ancles are galled with the irons. [illegible] takes up the ſaid negro, and ſecures [illegible] ſo that I may get him again, ſhall [illegible] two hundred dollars reward [illegible] dollar [illegible]

2 [illegible]

BELOW are the numbers of [illegible] office certificates, which were [illegible] in Cheſapeake bay, about the 20th of [illegible]vember, on board the [illegible] Sharp, by the privateer [illegible] Phillips, from New-York; No. [illegible] 1780, dated the 10th of February, [illegible] each 1000 dollars, payable to [illegible] Cook, counterſigned by Thomas Smith, continental loan-officer, Philadelphia; No. 6393 and 6396, dated March, [illegible] 600 dollars each, payable to Thomas Hodgkin, counterſigned by Thomas Harwood, Eſq; continental loan-officer, in Annapolis.—A deſcription of the above certificates is lodged in both the loan-offices, and [illegible] be ſtopped, if preſented for payment.

4 JOSEPH DOWSON.

THERE is in my cuſtody, a [illegible] man, committed as a runaway, by the name of JACK, who ſays he belongs to Mr. Robert Knox, in Charles county, near Maryland-Point, and that he came from a plantation in Virginia. His [illegible] is deſired to pay charges and take [illegible] away.

T. HARWOOD, ſheriff [illegible]
3 Anne-Arundel county.

FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS
REWARD.

Annapolis, January 10, 1781.

STRAYED or STOLEN from the ſubſcriber, about a month ago, a dark bay horſe, about 14 and a half hands high, 12 or 13 years old, has ſome [illegible] ſpots, a hanging mane, a ſhort ſwitch [illegible] ſhod before, and branded on the [illegible] buttock ſomething like [illegible] Whoever [illegible] give information where ſaid horſe may [illegible] had, ſhall receive two hundred dollars, and if brought home to the ſubſcriber [illegible] above reward, with all reaſonable charges and thanks, by

JONATHAN PARKER.

N. B. The ſaid horſe was purchaſed [illegible] Mr. James Murr, in the neighbourhood of Pigg-Point. 3 J. [illegible]

I HEREBY forewarn all perſons from hunting within any of my encloſures with either dog or gun.

3 ROBERT DAVIDGE.

PURSUANT to a commiſſion [illegible] us directed by the court of St. Mary's county, for the purpoſe of aſcertaining the boundaries of Denby, Maiden's-[illegible] Aberdeen, and Kingſton and Wheatly hills, the property of Mr. John De[illegible] of ſaid county, we do hereby give notice to all perſons whom it may concern, that we will meet on Denby the third Tueſday in March next, for the purpoſe aforeſaid, and examine all evidences that may be produced reſpecting their knowledge of the boundaries, and after, proceed to [illegible] other different tracts, and examine [illegible] reſpect to them. Given under our hands this ninth day of January, 1781.

WILL. SOMERVELL,
2 W. T. SMOOT.

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by FREDERICK [illegible] SAMUEL GREEN, at the POST-OFFICE.